(c) As per National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM), the Indian contribution is about 1.8% to 2.0% of the Global IT Software-ITES industry.

**Procurement norm for private operators**

1691. SHRI R. KAMARAJ: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Bharat Sanchar Nigam Ltd. had sought a level playing field procurement norms that would necessitate private operators also to source equipment from vendors having manufacturing facility in India; and

(b) if so, the steps taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Sir, given the nature of public and private sectors, there cannot be an absolute parity between them in the matter of procurement. While BSNL has not demanded any parity in procurement of equipment with private telecom operators, its concern was in respect of the proposed initiative of promoting indigenous telecom manufacturing in its procurements.

(b) Indigenous manufacture of telephone equipments is felt desirable with the objective, *inter alia,* of the availability of desired quality/standard products at competitive rates, immediate availability of after-sales services and development of new technologies in the country. A procurement framework, whereby only vendors who indigenously manufacture (or have definite plans to do so) certain telecom products are alone eligible for procurement is under active consideration by BSNL and MTNL.

**Telephone services in Madhya Pradesh**

1692. SHRI SU. THIRUNAVUKKARASAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) the details of telephone services provided to the rural and urban areas of Madhya Pradesh; and

(b) the details of the action taken to improve the telephone services provided to the tribal areas in Madhya Pradesh?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) The details of telephone services provided in the rural and urban areas of Madhya Pradesh are given in the Statement enclosed (See below).

(b) As on 31-10-2005, capacity has been created for 1,47,044 landline telephones, 42,055 WLL phones and 28,500 mobile phones in the tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh. As against this capacity, 98,445 land phone, 21,374 WLL phones and 8,095 mobile have been provided.

Further 9,761 Village Public Telephones (VPTs), 436 telephone exchanges, 4 satellite earth stations and 2,145 internet connections have also been provided in the tribal areas of Madhya Pradesh.

**Statement**

*Details of Telephone Services in Urban and Rural Areas of Madhya Pradesh*

1. Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL):

Status as on 31-10-2005

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Capacity added | Wired | Urban | 1279510 |
| | | Rural | 412304 |
| | WLL | Urban | 206350 |
| | | Rural | 26900 |
| | CMTS | Urban | 246100 |
| | | Rural | 6500 |
| DELs provided | Wired | Urban | 1005953 |
| | | Rural | 281661 |
| | WLL | Urban | 117414 |
| | | Rural | 60400 |
| | CMTS | Urban | 278981 |
| | | Rural | 8994 |
| Number of PCOs provided | | Urban | 44007 |
| | | Rural | 9391 |
| Internet connection | | Urban | 67252 |
| | | Rural | 3761 |
| Number of RCPs provided | | Rural | 1211 |
| Number of VPTs provided | | Rural | 41262 |

2. Private Operators:

(i) As on 30-09-2005, a total of 1,16,860 number of Landlines and WLL (Fixed) connections have been provided.

(ii) As on 30-09-2005, a total of 18,48,426 number of Cellular and WLL mobile connections have been provided.

(iii) The private service providers do not maintain separate database for urban and rural areas.

**Setting up of Electronic Hardware Technology Park**

1693. DR. VIJAY MALLYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the State Government has planned to set up an Electronic Hardware Technology Park near new Bangalore International airport (Devanahalli);

(b) the extent of land required for the formation of this Technology Park;

(c) whether there is a proposal to acquire agricultural land belonging to farmers for this project; and

(d) whether the excess land already acquired for the Bangalore International Airport been earmarked for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) to (d) The Government of Karnataka has planned to set up an Electronic Hardware Technology Park (EHTP) near the new Bangalore International Airport coming up in Devanahalli. The Karnataka Industrial Area Development Board (KIADB) has been requested to acquire about 1400 acres of identified land in the vicinity of the new International Airport. The KIADB has acquired land for the Bangalore International Airport and therefore it was considered appropriate to request KIADB to acquire and earmark land for the EHTP. The KIADB will acqure the Agricultural land for the proposed EHTP. The KIADB would be the authority empowered to allot land to the Electronic Hardware Industrial units in the proposed Electronic Hardware Technology Park. International Airport land is not linked to land being acquired for EHTP as both are separate entities.